

## **UTAH: New law assesses 'E911' fees on VoIP services**

Gov. Jon Huntsman (R.) last week signed a measure that changes the funding for emergency communication services, and imposes the emergency "911" (E911) surcharge on all services with access to the public switched telephone network, including voice-over-Internet protocol and other "new technologies."

Among other things, HB 119 will require all service providers to collect a monthly fee to fund emergency communication services, but caps that fee at 61 cents per month for each local exchange service switched access line or radio communications access line. Current monthly fees are not allowed to exceed 65 cents per month.

The new law further eliminates provisions reimbursing certain communications providers for costs associated with Phase 1 E911 service and allow funds from the E911 Emergency Service Fund to be used to assist in the development of Phase II E911 service. In addition, the date on which a charged levied to fund "unified" E911 service is to be reduced is changed to July 1, 2007, instead of July 1, 2008. That monthly fee is currently going to be reduced from 13 cents per month to 8 cents per month on July 1, 2008.

Rep. Brad Dee (R., District 11) sponsored HB 119.